Infrastructure Modernization to Expand General Aviation

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Infrastructure Modernization Can Improve All GA Measures

- Infrastructure can improve GA safety, reliability, ease-of-use, affordability
- These improvements would increase all measures of GA vitality.
 - More pilots -- using GA for transportation
 - More hours -- when GA aircraft are useful
 - More aircraft -- to meet this demand

Infrastructure That Improves Safety Improves Other Factors

- Improvements in GA capabilities that reduce fatal accident rates also increase GA utility, reliability, ease-of-use, efficiency
 - Weather
 - Terrain
 - Traffic
- Infrastructure modernization for safety will improve all GA activity measures.

Safer Skies Agenda

- FAA Administrator's #1 Priority
- Substantially reduce GA fatal accident rate
- GA Weather and CFIT-- first priority efforts
- Joint Safety Analysis Teams have identified "interventions" to reduce accident rates
- Joint Safety Implementation Teams will determine how to implement interventions

Weather Joint Safety Analysis Team

- Co-Chaired by SAMA and FAA Chicago Aircraft Certification Office
- 20 members: 5 GA, 15 FAA, operational experience and technical expertise
- 6 month intensive effort, reviewed all fatal GA weather accidents in 1995
- 20 prioritized interventions recommended
- 12 involve infrastructure modernization

Ground Infrastructure for Weather Safety

- Produce operational weather hazard graphics for pre-flight and in-flight use
- Improved PIREP collection, data basing, and dissemination system
- Expedite implementation Flight Information Services (FIS), weather data link system
- Improved controller and FSS specialist weather information equipment

Ground Infrastructure cont.

- Exploit new communications, navigation and surveillance systems (e.g. lower en route altitudes in mountain areas)
- Expedite implementation of precision GPS approaches and runway environment improvements at small airports
- Provide graphical traffic displays -- Traffic Information Service (TIS) range extension.

Facilitate Rapid Equipage Of Airborne Infrastructure

- Improve certification of weather data link (FIS) avionics; weather on moving maps
- Provide improved terrain and obstruction data base for low-cost terrain avoidance
- Lower the cost of rotorcraft IFR avionics and IFR certifications
- Increase R&D for low-cost airborne lookahead weather hazard sensors

Conclusions

- Infrastructure modernization for Safety would improve all GA forecast measures
- FAA should implement JSAT infrastructure modernization recommendations quickly
- #1 Priority Program: timely scheduled milestones and adequate resources to implement the recommendations; or make clear decisions not to act in an area.